GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:476
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009
FLOOD AFFECTED STATES
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether natural calamities including floods and landslides have caused loss of life and property in various parts of India;

(b) if so, the loss suffered in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the details of flood relief provided, State-wise during the said period;

(d) whether any contingent and long term plan(s) drawn to minimise the impact of such calamities;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the result achieved therefrom ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (f): Yes Madam, A statement showing the details of loss of human lives, livestock and damage to agriculture cropped area and houses due to cyclonic storms/ heavy reins/ floods/ landslide in the States/UT during the last three years and the current year is at Annexure-I.

The State Government are primarily responsible for undertaking relief measures at ground level in the wake of natural calamities. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing logistic and financial support. A statement showing the allocation & release of Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and funds released from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) during the last three years and the current year is at Annexure-II

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 was enacted and notified on December, 26, 2005 to provide for institutional mechanisms for drawing up at various levels and preparation of the disaster management plans, ensuring measures by various wings of Government for prevention and mitigating the effects of disasters and for undertaking a holistic, coordinated, and prompt response to any disaster situation.

As per the Act, the Central Government has already constituted the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) with the responsibility for laying down the policies, plans and guidelines for disaster management. NDMA has already inter-alia released guidelines on management of earthquakes, floods, landslides, cyclones and preparation of State Disaster Management Plans. Based on these guidelines, Central Ministries/ State Governments are expected to formulate disaster specific mitigation plans.

The Schemes for flood control are planned, funded, and executed by the State Governments concerned. The role of the Central Government is of a technical, catalytic and promotional nature. The Central Government has initiated various measures for assisting the States in the management of floods, which include:-

(I) The setting up of the Rashtriya Barh Ayog in 1976 to look into the flood problem and suggest remedial measures. Based on its recommendations, flood management strategy in the country was formulated and forwarded to all the concerned States;

(ii) Constitution of the Ganga Flood Control Commission in 1972 for the Ganga Basin States covering all the 23 river system of Ganga;

(iii) Constitution of the Brahmaputra Board for flood management covering the rivers Brahmaputra, Barak and their major tributaries;

(iv) Formulation of the National Water Policy, 2002,which has recommended for the preparation of basin-wise Master Plans for flood management and control and for providing adequate flood cushion in the reservoir projects;

(v) Constitution of a Task Force in 2004 for Flood management and Erosion Control in Assam and its Neighbouring States as well as Bihar,West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.The report of the Task Force has been circulated to all the concerned States and Central Ministries.

(vi) A State sector scheme (of the Ministry of Water Resources) "Flood Management Programme" with an outlay of Rs. 8000/- crores has been approved by the Central Government, in November,2007, for providing Central assistance to the State Governments for critical flood management and erosion control works.

All these measures are expected to reduce the adverse impact of natural disasters.